

The prayers were needed because the cost of D-Day was high; U.S. casualties on D-Day totaled more than 2,499 dead, 3,184 wounded, 1,928 missing, and 26 captured.

Our British and Canadian allies suffered terrible losses on D-Day as well: approximately 2,700 for the British and 946 for the Canadians.

German casualties are estimated at 4,000 to 9,000.

In total, the number of combatants killed, wounded or missing in the Battle of Normandy for both sides exceeded 425,000, not including the estimated 15,000 to 20,000 French civilians killed.

But the operation was a success.

More than 156,000 troops or paratroopers came ashore on D-Day, 73,000 from the U.S., 83,000 from Great Britain and Canada.

By the end of June 11, D-Day plus 5, 326,547 troops, 54,186 vehicles and 104,428 tons of supplies had come ashore.

And with them came the seeds for the victory in Europe that would come less than a year later, on May 8, 1945, with the fall of Berlin and the unconditional surrender of the Nazis.

On the eve of the Normandy invasion, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces, addressed the soldiers, sailors, and airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Forces and said to them that they were about to embark upon a "Great Crusade," and that the "eyes of the world" were upon them.

He told them that their task would not be easy because the "enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely."

But General Eisenhower said, "this is the year 1944. The tide has turned. The free men of the world are marching together to victory."

And march to victory they did, fully justifying General Eisenhower's "confidence in their courage, devotion to duty, and skill in battle."

Because of the heroism of these men who willingly risked their lives to be the tip of the spear of liberty, the war was won, and a world was saved for freedom.

Madam Speaker, D-Day was, and remains, a day like no other in the history of man's sojourn on earth.

We remember Gettysburg.

There, President Lincoln paid tribute to those "who gave their lives so that the nation might live."

It is equally fitting and proper that we never forget D-Day and that we continue to honor those who risked all and gave all so that the light of freedom would never be extinguished in the world.

**HONORING JOHN REMILLARD,
PRESIDENT OF ELIZABETHTOWN
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL, ON HIS
WELL-DESERVED RETIREMENT**

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 4, 2021

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Remillard on his retirement from the Elizabethtown Community Hospital.

John joined the University of Vermont Health Network as President of both the Eliza-

bethtown Community Hospital and the hospital in Ticonderoga 5 years ago. Since then, John has helped the hospital through renovations, additions, and restructuring. He has shown steadfast leadership in the face of great challenges, most notably throughout the Coronavirus Pandemic. I have had the pleasure of working with John in the interest of the people of the 21st Congressional District, ensuring that the hospitals received necessary federal funding and supplies. I am grateful for the sacrifice and hard work that John and the entire Elizabethtown Community Hospital staff put into keeping our community safe and healthy.

As a federally designated critical access hospital, Elizabethtown Community Hospital provides vital care to the surrounding areas. John has faced unique challenges working in the rural healthcare field and yet, he continued to relentlessly pursue providing access to high quality care for all who walked through the hospital's doors. For more than 30 years working in the healthcare field, John has been a caring and compassionate leader, understanding that it truly takes a village.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I would like to congratulate John on reaching this important milestone. John has left a significant impact on our community and improved access to healthcare in our rural district. I wish him well in this next chapter of his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATRICK G.
HIMES, SR.

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 4, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my District Manager Patrick G. Himes, Sr., for his service to Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District. An Altoona native, Pat has worked alongside me since the beginning of my service in Congress.

During his tenure, Pat has been an integral member of my team as he worked with Pennsylvanians on the ground and led our district operations. Under his leadership, our team has delivered substantial results for the people of Pennsylvania—from leading outreach to constituents and supporting our local communities to cutting through red tape with federal agencies. During the uncertain days of 2020, Pat ensured that our district team continued to safely provide uninterrupted services.

Every day, Pat's work is marked by his commitment and dedication to the people of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District.

Pat has spent a lifetime in service to our community. Before joining my office, Pat served as a law enforcement officer in Blair County for 27 years, including as Blair County Parole Officer, Altoona Police Officer, and Altoona School District Police Officer. He attended Bishop Guilfoyle High School and holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Dayton.

It is my privilege to recognize Patrick G. Himes, Sr., for his outstanding service to our region, and to thank him for his tireless work. I wish Pat and his family all the best as they embark on a new chapter.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF COLONEL GERALD "JERRY"
LUKOWSKI JR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 4, 2021

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the esteemed career in public service of Colonel Gerald "Jerry" Lukowski, Junior. Colonel Lukowski retires on June 5, 2021, from the apex of his service as Chief of Staff to the Joint Staff for the Connecticut Army National Guard. Having dedicated a 36-year long career toward securing the common defense through a distinguished vocation in the military, Jerry will move on and continue to benefit the State of Connecticut with his skill and expertise within the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

Jerry's sense of duty catalyzed his service to the public through a military-oriented career. This was exemplified from the earliest days of his education, when he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant through the University of Connecticut's ROTC program in 1989, before graduating from the University of New Haven in 1991. Armed with a Bachelors in Civil Engineering, Second Lieutenant Lukowski set his sights on a path to leadership within the State's civil defense unit, the Connecticut Army National Guard. He put himself forward on this path, engaging with various career-related roles whilst simultaneously advancing a civilian and military education, obtaining his Master's in Environmental Engineering from his alma mater in 1997, completing countless military instruction courses and acquiring numerous licenses within the State's engineering apparatus as recent as 2019.

Colonel Lukowski applied his affinity for knowledge throughout the ranks of his distinguished profession. His education prepared him for 17 years of service at several stations of duty with the Combat Engineers and most prominently catalyzed his ability to excel in the latter half of his career as the Construction and Facility Management Officer (CFMO) for 13 years, and then Chief of Staff to the Joint Staff since 2016. As Chief of Staff, Colonel Lukowski greatly enhanced the operations of the Connecticut Army National Guard, pushing the troops to work with their respective units on their pre-deployment and redeployment requirements. During his tenure as CFMO, Colonel Lukowski's leadership and expertise in facilities management, fiscal policy and federal contracting enabled the state to obtain nearly \$975 million in Military Construction Project and Sustainment Restoration and Modernization funding, resulting in the planning and implementation of 17 total projects. His tenacity as an advocate for boosting Connecticut's emergency response infrastructure has well positioned our state's readiness capabilities for generations to come and has truly kept the safety of our public at heart.

Madam Speaker, Colonel Lukowski has spent his life developing Connecticut's emergency response infrastructure. His example of selfless service now extends throughout his family—his wife Mary Beth and children John, Sarah, Megan and Emily—the last of whom has gone on to attend the US Air Force Academy after receiving a nomination from my office. While the Connecticut Army National